



# SOROPTIMIST SPOTLIGHT

Issue 46, Volume 6

December 2016



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"Twas the week before Christmas, and all through the land,  
 Santa's elves were quite busy, wrapping gifts oh so grand!  
 The children of Truckee will be receiving a toy,  
 Filling their Christmas with much wonder and joy!"



## About Truckee Community Christmas

### CALENDAR

Note: Evening times shaded orange

#### DECEMBER

12/1	Noon	Board Meeting @ TDPUD
12/4	11-1	HOLIDAY BRUNCH
12/8	Noon	Business Meeting @ Zano's (President's Appeal)
12/9		Soroptimist International Day Human Rights Day
11/25-12/17		Community Christmas Wrapping & Distribution
12/14	4-5pm	See's Candy Distribution
12/25		MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

#### JANUARY

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

1/1		HAPPY NEW YEAR
1/5	Noon	Board Meeting @ TDPUD
1/11		Human Trafficking Awareness Day
1/12	Noon	Business Meeting @ Zano's
1/19	TBD	Program Meeting
1/28	5:00	Senior Bingo @ New Rec Center

Truckee Community Christmas is an all-volunteer, non profit 501(c)(3) umbrella organization that coordinates various drives that are happening during the holidays to help families in need in the Truckee area. The board members work with agencies such as the Family Resource Center, Project MANA, service groups and area schools and churches to identify needy families and then provide food, grocery gift cards and an age-appropriate toy for each child in the family. The senior program provides gifts, food and grocery gift cards to identified low income seniors and to area homebound seniors. All goods provided to recipients are donated by community members. Each year, SITD helps by collecting, wrapping, and distributing the toys.

There are still opportunities for you to help with the toy wrapping and distribution. Contact Lynnette Powell for further information at [lynnette.powell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lynnette.powell@sbcglobal.net).

# PRESIDENT LESLIE'S MESSAGE

## 2016-2017 Officers & Board

**President:** Leslie Dugger  
**President Elect:** Susan Horst  
**Recording Secretary:** Nancy Wallis  
**Corresponding Secretary:** Pam English  
**Treasurer:** Nancy Davis  
**Treasurer Elect:** Lauren Schaaake-Hudson  
 Directors: Jayne Hahin, Francine Tone  
 Delegates: Cathy Leibow, Janet Mills

## SI Truckee Donner Contact Details

**Website:** [www.sitruckeedonner.org](http://www.sitruckeedonner.org)  
**For general questions,** please email [info@sitruckeedonner.org](mailto:info@sitruckeedonner.org)  
**President Leslie Dugger**  
**For newsletter questions** and/or feedback or to subscribe or unsubscribe, please email [skigal55@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skigal55@sbcglobal.net)

**Soroptimist International (SI)**  
[www.soroptimistinternational.org](http://www.soroptimistinternational.org)  
**SI of the Americas (SIA)**  
[www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org)  
**Soroptimist Sierra Nevada Region (SNR)**  
[www.soroptimistsnr.org](http://www.soroptimistsnr.org)

Did you know that on December 10<sup>th</sup> the President of Soroptimist International announces an appeal to the entire membership on an issue she wants to support during her Presidency. SI President Yvonne Simpson announced in 2015 an "Educate to Lead Nepal" commitment after the April 2015 earthquake made the already challenging lives of women and girls nearly impossible. Essential supplies were blocked at the borders and disaster relief was slow in reaching many rural villages. Nepal is a country with one of the poorest population in the world. Because tuition, uniforms, and books is expensive, boys are given the opportunity of an education before the girls. Girls often find themselves with no options and end up taking care of their extended families or fall victim to human trafficking. We all know that education is the door to breaking the chain of poverty and ultimately leads to economic empowerment.

The following programs are currently being funded:

1. Australian Himalayan Foundation (AHF) – The AHF is working with the people of Himalayas region to improve the areas of health, education, and conservation. The president's appeal is supporting the AHF in Nepal to improve the educational opportunities for girls in the lower Khumbu region which is an area close to the earthquake. Second, the AHF's Teacher Training & Quality Education (TTQE) program provides training on gender awareness issues to teachers who will then go out and train other teachers creating a naturally sustaining program. This education also encompasses district education officers, government representatives, and community stakeholders. There is also a series of 3, three-day workshops on gender sensitivity training which was developed (in coordination with the District Education Office), offered and attended by over 100 female teachers. The main purpose of the training was to further the teacher's knowledge on reducing gender discrimination in the classroom, and empower them to actively apply their knowledge in their classrooms.

(continued page 5)



Artwork by Monica Stewart, Oakland, CA

Communicate  
 Innovate  
 Educate

### Birthdays

- 12/1 Pam English
- 12/3 Joyce Brady
- 12/5 Katy Jones
- 12/9 Lynnette Powell
- 12/12 Denise Eaton-Lloyd
- 12/17 Jae Gustafson
- 12/18 Leslie Williams-Kahn
- 12/19 Patti Conk

### Anniversaries

- 1994 Lisa Swartz
- 1995 Anita Spencer
- 2009 Angela White
- 2009 Sarah Deardorff
- 2014 Janet Sanzari

Introducing our  
newest member...  
Jennifer Hermann



"I retired last year from a career in healthcare for over 35 years. My initial career was as a Registered Nurse Emergency and Acute Medical Surgical specialties. Then moved into Nursing Administration. The last 15 years were spent in Healthcare Human Resources at the University of California as an Executive Director.

On a personal note, early in my life I was faced with the challenge of being a single parent while working full time and going to school. I understand the many challenges girls and women face on a daily basis. I feel that joining SITD will provide an opportunity for me to give back to the community and help other women achieve their maximum potential.

I am thrilled and excited to join the Soroptimist organization. I am eager to learn more about the local programs and how I can assist in helping women and girls on a local level."

Other interests and activities include:

Volunteer Forest Ranger Desolation Wilderness - Trailhead and Backcountry naturalist past 4 years

Yoga, Fitness, Skiing, hiking, a terrible golfer but like the sport!

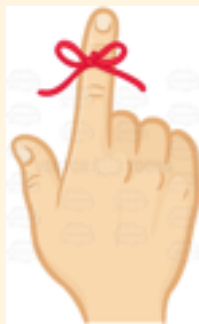
Travel

Food/Wine

Family (Wonderful husband -3 grown children and 3 grandchildren)

❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

Don't forget ---  
**See's Candy Pickup**  
Wednesday, December 14  
Between 4-5pm  
TDPUD Building  
Drive around through the  
gate to the back.



If you cannot pick up your goodies,  
please arrange to have a buddy  
pick them up for you.  
Thank you!



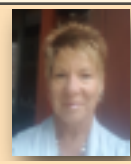
The  
Mammoth  
Mountain  
Ski Trip  
is ON!

When? January 9-11  
How Many? Nine, first come, first served  
Where? Mammoth Mountain Inn  
Contact? Nancy Davis

HOLIDAY SHOPPERS GOT THEIR JINGLE ON  
AND ENJOYED OUR ANNUAL  
SOROPTISHOP CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA



If you would like to submit an article, photo or information for the "Spotlight", please email [skigal55@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skigal55@sbcglobal.net). Our submission deadline is the 20th of the month for the following month's issue. We reserve the right to edit material for length and content. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this publication. However, SITD cannot guarantee the accuracy of this information and hereby expressly disclaims any responsibility for errors.



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## **President Leslie's Message**, continued from page 2

2. Removing Barriers to Education in Nepal – SI Truckee Meadows (yes, the one in Reno, NV) became aware of the needs in Nepal 15 years ago when they heard a presentation by Dr. Purna Subedi who came to the US from Nepal as a young boy and happened to be the adopted son of a Soroptimist member. The club embraced his village and, upon learning about the lack of educational opportunities for girls who, if they were lucky enough to be provided an education, often walked several hours each way to attend school. SI Truckee Meadows built a dormitory which allowed the girls to stay at the school. They have gone on to fund improvements such as clean cooking technology, solar generated electricity, computers, sanitary toilets. 900 girls have graduated from the program and gone on to share their knowledge and skills with their communities as well as raise the standard of living for themselves. Educate to Lead has provided a grant to provide for the room & board, tuition, books, supplies and uniforms for 20 girls for 2 years. A micro lending program will be available upon finishing school to enable them to start a small business. The repayment rate in the program has been 100%.

3. Tharu Women's Project – This is a project from SI Oita-Midori and started 20 years ago. At that time women in the village were grossly discriminated against, 85% of the women were illiterate, and many were being abducted by human traffickers. The SI Oita-Midori club built a training center, began literacy classes followed by skills training which led to income opportunities such as dress making and food preparation. Girls were offered scholarships for tuition and, upon completion, micro loans. There are now three training centers and thousands of women have completed the literacy courses. Educate to Lead has provided a grant to fund computer classes. 20 computers were purchased in late 2015 and 80 women and 10 teachers will be trained to use them over a 2 year period. The training will continue over the next five years with the expectation of training 200 women.

4. Maiti Nepal – Thousands of women and children are trafficked each year. The National Human Rights Commission of Nepal stated that 13,000 girls and women were trafficked for sexual exploitation in 2013, and 40% were believed to be children under the age of 18. It is estimated that the number increased significantly after the 2015 earthquake. Anuradha Koirala founded the Maiti Nepal project with her own savings and has rescued over 29,000 women and girls from traffickers. Educate to Lead's support will allow Maiti Nepal to invest in their safe house. 90 women will directly benefit from the free room and board, counseling, skills training, and reintegration

HAPOY  
HOLIDAYS